A Different LEAF for Outdoor and Protected Horticulture

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Vitacress Ltd.
Vitacress Farms

Baby-leaf salads

- >9000 tonnes salad
- Prepped salad & watercress

Culinary herbs

- 20 million living herb pots
- 60 million bags of cut herbs
Vitacress Salads – LEAF in the UK

• 150m of new chalk stream
  - brown trout
  - little egret
  - water management

• Tree sparrow habitat provision - declining species

• 10% land allocated to wildlife

Manage field boundaries for environmental and wildlife benefit
Provide bird, hedgehog or other habitat boxes
Vitacress Salads – LEAF abroad

- Portugal/Spain »« Kent migration route for turtle dove
- Global suppliers - those who aren’t LEAF, want to be
- Influences design & policy
- Wildlife and community

- Consider water efficiency when purchasing new equipment
- Consider water efficiency when designing new buildings
Vitacress Herbs - Runcton Nursery

- 19.6 hectare site
- 15.2 hectares under glass
LEAF & Protected Horticulture

Butterfly walk & a hiding place...

Water vole habitat management

...for pests!
Getting more from LEAF

• LEAF as a tool
  - organisation, progress monitoring, resource management

• Site improvement - retrofitting for rainwater harvesting

• Application to horticulture
  - more standard relevance
  - more recognition for good hort.

• Widespread recognition - adoption by global suppliers
Thank you

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